GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4964
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
POWER REFORMS
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam and other States in the North Eastern Regionhave submitted proposals for power reforms in the region, including bifurcation of the respective State Electricity Boards and privatization thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (c) : The decision to reform the power sector including bifurcation or privatization of SEBs in the States rests with the State Governments.

Government of India has been encouraging States to undertake reforms soas to improve the health of the power sector. With this objective the Government of India has been signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with states reflecting thejoint commitment of the Centre and the States to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. The MOUs are being fleshed out into the Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs)with clearer and more specific milestones. All the States of north-eastern region except Manipur and Tripura have signed MoU/MoA with the Government of India.

The Union Government has released Rs.43.20 crores in 2000-01 andRs.143 crores in 2002-03 to the north-eastern States under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for implementation of projects inidentified distribution circles for bringing about a turn around.